

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants are attaching formal drawings to this response. No objections were raised by the Examiner.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed September 13, 2006, claims 1-19 stand rejected by the Examiner. Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. All the pending claims at issue are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

DRAWINGS

Although no objections were raised by the Examiner, the Applicants found that FIG. 3 contained typographical errors. Specifically, the specification (paragraph no. [0024]) states that "a bus 42 serves as the main information highway interconnecting the other components of the computer," however, FIG. 3 is missing the "42" label for the bus. Additionally, FIG. 3 incorrectly designates "42" for the CD Rom and Applicants have substituted "42" with "53." The replacements sheets for FIGS. 1 and 2 are to remove the handwritten numbers with typed numbers and so that the figures will be better reproduced when the application issues. Applicants request that Examiner replace the replacement drawings for the drawings filed on December 28, 2001. No new matter has been added.

SPECIFICATION

Paragraphs [0018] and [0020] have been replaced to properly reflect that portions of FIG. 1 illustrate the steps of an embodiment of the invention. Paragraph [0019] has been replaced to properly reflect that portions of FIG. 1 illustrate the steps of an embodiment of the invention and to correct a typographical error by making clear that "16" is used for "database" and not to

“vehicles.” Paragraph [0025] has been replaced in order to properly label the CD-Rom, CD-R, CD-RW and DVD drives with the proper designation of “53” instead of “42.” Paragraph [0030] has been deleted as it is a repeat of paragraph [0029]. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added and request that the Examiner replace said paragraphs with the replacement paragraphs.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §101

The Examiner rejected claims 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner states that claims 16-19 are directed to method steps that are using structure recited in apparatus claim 16. The Examiner further states that this is improper because these claims then appear to be directed to both an apparatus and the method of using that apparatus.

Applicants have amended claims 16-19 to further describe structural limitations of the data input and remove any potential issues of having both system and method claims in a claim set. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully submitted.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants have amended claims 16-19 to further describe structural limitations of the data input and remove any potential issues of having both system and method claims in a claim set. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully submitted.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Li (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0072808 (hereinafter “Li”). The Examiner states that Li discloses a system and method for providing vehicle information and that a user can enter information concerning a given vehicle and the system can analyze that information to give a diagnosis of what may be wrong. The Examiner further states that the system can determine warranty status of the vehicle based on the diagnosis of the problem. The Examiner states that entering diagnostic information is satisfied by paragraph 55 and comparing the entered information to a system database is shown in paragraph 42. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Li discloses a computer-based administration system that includes a dialog manager that collect service information regarding a vehicle from a user. (See Abstract). The system also includes an artificial intelligence based reasoning module that analyzes the service information to determine a diagnosis. (Id.). The system further includes a repair processing module for administering warranty specific services based on the diagnosis and the service information. (Id.).

The Examiner points to paragraph 55 for disclosing entering diagnostic information, however, the dialog manager prompts the customer for information regarding possible problems the customer is having with the vehicle. The examples of information include that a 30,000 mile service is needed and that the vehicle pulls to the right. Additionally information can be requested from the customer such as what is needed at the 30,000 miles service or if the car is experiencing poor gas mileage. The information inputted by the customer is not diagnostic information from a vehicle analyzer and/or the onboard monitor as shown, for example, on FIG.

1. By having more accurate diagnostic information from an analyzer or onboard monitor instead of information based on observations by the customer, the embodiment of the invention can provide more accurate diagnosis and leading to better warranty results for the manufacturers. Thus, having true diagnostic information such as emission gas analysis or amps from certain parts will provide a better search of the relevant diagnostic database to ensure that the diagnosis is correct.

Therefore, Li does not at least teach or suggest a method of providing vehicle information that includes “entering vehicle diagnostic information into the system” and “comparing the entered vehicle diagnostic information with reference diagnostic information,” as recited in claim 1. Li does not also disclose or teach at least a system for providing vehicle information that includes at least “means for entering vehicle diagnostic information into the system” and “means for comparing the entered vehicle diagnostic information with reference diagnostic information,” as recited in claim 6. Further, Li does not teach or suggest a system for providing vehicle information that includes at least “a data input wherein vehicle diagnostic data is input to the system through the data input,” and “a microprocessor that compares the diagnostic data received at the data input with reference diagnostic information from the database,” as recite in claim 11.

Because claims 2-5 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1; claims 7-10 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 6 and claims 12-19 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 11, they are also believed to be patentable based on their dependency. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §103

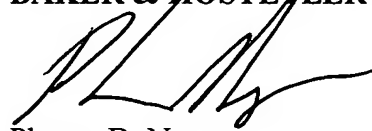
The Examiner rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103ab) as being unpatentable over Li. Because claim 5 depends from claim 1, which are believed to be patentable, claim 5 is also believed to be patentable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all the objections and rejections to the claims be removed and that the claims pass to allowance. If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned attorney at 202-861-1610 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned Attorney is confident that any issue which might remain can readily be worked out by telephone.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to our Docket No. 87354.1581.

Respectfully submitted,
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FIG. 3
COMPUTER SYSTEM INTERNAL DIAGRAM

